

# The Pocahontas Times.

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\$1.00 A Year

## Career of Henry H. Rogers

Henry Huddleston Rogers was born in Fairhaven and spent his early years in that place. Later he earned his living selling newspapers in the streets of New Bedford. His parents were poor and "Hank" as he was known, was left largely to his own resources. New Bedford at that time— that was half a century ago or more— was a great whaling port, and knocking about among the ships, in from voyages in search of the sperm whale, gave the youngster an insight and a great respect for oil as an article of commerce. There was not the demand for newspapers in those days that there is now, and the profits did not meet the requirements of young Rogers. His family also depended upon him for assistance. He needed a steady income, and he found it in a grocery store, where he took a place as a delivery boy at \$3 a week and board. He made the most of the board and sent the \$3 home. For five years he remained in the employ of the grocer, advancing to the position of head clerk.

Then came the discovery of oil in Pennsylvania, and in a little time New Bedford was dead. Young Rogers drifted to the oil fields. He had learned a thing or two about the oil trade in New Bedford, and his knowledge was practicable knowledge. Here Rogers found profitable employment and it was not long before he was a familiar personal acquaintance with the oil barons. He was prolific of ideas for saving and marketing the products of the wells, and some of the ideas were so good that he was employed by one of the big operators to carry them out. This employment gave him confidence in himself and stimulated him to new endeavors. He is said to have suggested that the owners of oil producing wells should pool their product and market it through one concern, to control the output, reduce the cost of handling, fix a uniform price for certain trades and stop competition.

The project was discussed by the larger operators, and that practically was the reception of the Standard oil company. But before that mighty concern became mighty, Rogers had improved upon his original plan. If capital could be found it would be better to buy out all the small producers and organize the larger ones into a company that should control the trade. The capital was found; many of the smaller operators sold outright, but some of the larger ones refused either to come in or to sell at the price offered by the company. But Rogers is not generally given the credit for the brain work that made immense combination possible and successful. There are even those who declare that the idea did not originate with him at all. Still he was long a director in that corporation was one of its vice-presidents and grew immensely rich through his connection with it.

The demand for copper some years ago made Rogers open his eyes when he came to investigate it. He went west, studied the situation in Wisconsin and then he went to Montana. In Butte he took in the Anaconda workings in all their details and examined the other big mines. He got some data on the Mexican output of copper also. When he returned to New York the Amalgamated copper company was under his hat. During the investigation of the Standard oil company by the state of Missouri Mr. Rogers figured prominently and gained much notoriety by his refusal to answer questions put to him by Attorney-General Herbert S. Hadley in the offices of Henry Wollman, 74 Broadway, where the hearing was held. This was in January, 1906. Attorney General Hadley took the case before Supreme Court Justice Gildersleeve, who decided in favor of the Standard oil man.

Mr. Rogers was in the foremost rank of that group of "captains of industry" who were at the zenith

of their powers in the great industrial movement which began in '98 and culminated in 1901 after the organization of the United States steel corporation and the Amalgamated copper company. He was of that generation which in the last few years, has been giving over its burdens to younger men. He and J. P. Morgan, the two great planets of the financial world, Wall street was willing to follow wherever they led. The man who has taken his place in later years is E. H. Harriman, who in many respects parallels Mr. Rogers, in methods and temperament, and is carrying out in the railroad world the same line of argument for close economy in operations that was a feature of the Rogers idea in industrial organization.

Ten years ago last month the Amalgamated copper company was organized. This was an outlet for Mr. Rogers's energies and capital. Prior to this he had been a hard worker at the head of the Standard oil company, of which he practically assumed charge after John D. Rockefeller retired into private life. The only time that Mr. Rockefeller has taken up the reins of Standard oil affairs was two years ago, when Mr. Rogers had to give up. The World at large knew nothing of Rogers before the Amalgamated copper flotation, and practically all of the criticism of his acts and the publicity that has surrounded his life has grown out of the copper flotation. This furnished the basis for Lawson's story, "Promoted Fortune." The picture that most people have of Rogers is the graphic one which Lawson has drawn. Lawson was the agent of Rogers and claims to have given him his idea of the "copper trust" and to have been the directing genius of that remarkable promotion.

Whether Rogers tired or Lawson thought Rogers was playing unfair has never been conclusively proven, although there are many who have held to the opinion that the relations between the two men even in the last few years, have been quite intimate. Mr. Rogers was the central figure of the so-called Standard oil-Wall street group. Actively associated with him were Wm. Rockefeller, brother of John D. Rockefeller; James Stillman, former president of the National City Park, H. C. Frick and later E. H. Harriman. This group probably undertook larger stock market ventures than any other known to financial history. For days they made and unmade markets. They were bulls on the country as a general proposition, but frequently they did not appreciate the compliment that a host of speculators paid them in following their market operation. Then they "pulled the plug," to use a familiar phrase, and a crash followed.

The history of the Amalgamated copper speculation was one with this group of powerful insiders playing with an infatuated public, which finally burnt his fingers. In the summer of 1896 when the Union Pacific dividend was increased to 10 per cent the Southern Pacific had its first dividend, and dividend increases were made right and left, this Standard oil group, operating on their own enormous capital and assisted by loans of great amounts secured in Europe, were carrying a line of securities that has probably never been exceeded. This was when Lawson was preaching to the public to let the big men have stock. The public followed his advice. Rogers and his associates were not able to sell out, and when the panic came they were the heaviest losers. There were frequent reports at that time that H. H. Rogers had seen his fortune, previously estimated at from \$80,000,000 to \$100,000,000 shrink to a pittance. Men who knew something about his affairs afterward said that the depreciation in the value of his holdings probably cut his fortune in half, but that he was still enormously rich.

As part from the speculative side

of his nature there was also the constructive element. This was most plainly shown in the later years of his life. He put into permanent form the details of operations and the larger policies of the Standard oil company, which were originally suggested by John D. Rockefeller. The Amalgamated copper company represented an economic idea put into tangible form. This was that in the mining and distribution of copper metal there was too much waste through competition and lack of unity among producers in establishing a fixed price and of regulating production to the volume of demand. It cannot be said that the Amalgamated copper company has justified its existence. Its dividend policy has been a very irregular one and several times exceedingly bad judgment has been shown in trade matters, especially in holding large stocks of copper for higher prices two years ago when the metal was selling at 25 cents, and then shortly afterward began to decline to 12 1/2 cents. The trouble has been that the original idea of controlling the copper output through the Amalgamated has been impossible owing to the development of copper mines all over the country that was not in sight when the Amalgamated was created.

Without doubt the lasting monument to Mr. Rogers's energy will be the Virginia railway, which was built from the capital which he almost entirely supplied and which was just offered for traffic last month. This enterprise represented the spirit of daring and of optimism in the country's future that was elemental in the Rogers character. To build this road, which runs from the soft coal fields of West Virginia to tidewater at Norfolk, whole towns were swept out of existence and rails laid where it seemed almost impossible from natural difficulties to find a right of way. The road cost about \$40,000,000 and it was the amount of capital that Mr. Rogers had tied up in it during the period of tight money in 1906 and 1907 that made his financial position at one time so precarious. One of the first indications of the serious money situation three years ago was the announcement that Mr. Rogers had been forced to pay 7 per cent for money which he borrowed for the Virginia railway.

This was a shock to Wall street. To secure these notes he pledged the entire bond issue of about \$38,000,000 of the road, over \$12,000,000 of gilt edged securities which came out of his strong box, and the pledge of his private fortune. It was said that Mr. Rogers had not been very active in the stock market in the last year. The securities which showed such large depreciations just after the panic have increased from 50 to 75 per cent in value since then, so his fortune is probably within \$25,000,000 of the estimate of 1906.

Mr. Rogers gave much in charity; though his name was not often seen on subscription lists. He sought in everything, except his gifts to his native town to avoid publicity, and many sums were given by him entirely anonymously, though the pastor of the church of the Messiah or some other intermediary. One of the most interesting of his gifts was his payment, in large proportion, of the expenses of the education of Miss Helen Keller, the deaf, dumb and blind girl whose achievements have become celebrated all over the world. Miss Keller graduated at Radcliffe college, and practically all her expenses in that institution were defrayed by Mr. Rogers.

All of the bonding companies authorized to transact business in this state have refused to write bonds for pistol carriers under the Johnson law, this action may possibly have the effect of keeping out a number who would otherwise take out a license, it is understood that the clause in the bond requiring indemnity in event of accidental injuries is the objectionable feature.

## What Does it Mean?

In this week's issue of the Journal there are the applications of twenty-six persons for license to carry revolvers in Fayette county. Among them are three physicians. We can understand why policemen and collectors should carry arms, but what in the name of common sense does a doctor need a pistol for? His mission is to restore and preserve life, not take it. Nobody ever heard of a doctor being fired on in performance of duty. Even in war he is immune from any thing save accidental death at the hands of the enemy. We do not understand it at all.

We have known some very gentle spirits in the realm of medical practice, and a few of the growly kind, but never one to carry a pistol. Ask any of them if he needs a safeguard and he will shake his head and lay his hand significantly on his saddlebags or medical case. That is his safe passport in the wildest and most desperate mountain districts. The simple exhibition of one of those old-fashioned forceps or "pull-kins" by a country doctor has stamped many a gang of desperado characters, and we have known men totally unprepared for death to pray for annihilation when they saw the M. D. preparing a dose of lobelia.

No sane man would attack a doctor. Those who have passed into the ground through his mistakes never threaten his safety. There are no resentments in the grave. And those who escape alive thank God and forget to cherish malice, at least until after the bill is presented. We can't understand it at all.

The only occasions on which we ever really knew physicians to be in deadly peril was when they fell sick and a consultation was called for by the unsuspecting friends of the doomed medico. When this transpired we never wasted any unavailing tears but began getting the data ready for a first-class obituary. Under the above circumstances only would a Harrington or Gating be justifiable in the hands of a doctor. Eliminating this possibility, we search in vain for a reasonable excuse. And there remains but a faint surmise, to-wit: that they collect for their services on the spot, and are unwilling to lug the fees home without due adequate protection. Outside of this, we don't understand it at all.—West Virginia News.

## New Laws of West Virginia

Through the kindness of our friend Chris Hetzel we are in possession of the laws of West Virginia up to date. We got every thing taxed now in this state from the nails in our great grandmother's coffin to the swaddling clothes of the tenth generation yet unborn. People think of the bureaucratic system of Russia. It is tame compared to West Virginia. We have a commissioner of everything now from tarntation to torment. And as for license a man must take out a license to die. He forfeits his estate if he dies without a license. In order to die, a man must first advertise the fact for four weeks in two newspapers of opposite politics, and must have a certificate from the county court that he is of good moral character and not of intemperate habits. If he does not but plunges hence as heretofore, his estate is forfeited under the tax laws. He must take out a license to be the father of his own children. The license tax is \$10 per year on girls and \$20.00 on boys. Any man who permits his children to call him "pap" without having paid the license tax is subject to a fine of \$500 and imprisonment for six months and the court is denied discretion. And if you get fleas on yourself there is a hunter's license to be paid before you can pick 'em off. Any man found hunting fleas or doodle bugs without having paid a hunter's license shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined not exceeding \$500.00 and imprisoned at the discretion of the court. If you

have the itch you must take out a scratcher's license before you can scratch yourself. The law says any man found either scratching, digging, rubbing, or squirming the itch without a state license therefor shall forfeit \$10.00 for the first offense and \$30.00 for each subsequent offense. If you have the toothache you have to get license to grunt, and if you have the measles you must have a license to smell bad. These are only a few things that we have noticed in the Acts of 1909.—Hinton Independent.

## Disease is Spread

Through the Agency of the Common House Fly in Many Cases. Reports received from various states tend to prove the house fly one of the most dangerous pests in the world.

Numerous and careful investigations have shown that flies are the main agents in the transmission of typhoid fever, and that they also spread tuberculosis, cholera and many other deadly diseases.

A striking example of the communicability of typhoid fever through the medium of the house fly is shown by the health statistics compiled among the United States soldiers during the Spanish-American War. The figures show that of 133,513 men, 22,420 had typhoid fever, from which 1,924 died. In almost every instance the contraction of the disease was traced to flies. More men were killed by flies than by the bullets of the enemy.

Almost invariably it has been found that typhoid fever is prevalent during that season of the year when flies are most numerous. It has also been shown that the disease is most common in those states where flies are present for the longest period throughout the year, and reproduce most rapidly.

A committee appointed in New York City to investigate the subject of the spread of disease recommended the observance of the following rules in order to minimize the danger:

"Keep the flies away from the sick, especially those ill with contagious diseases. Kill every fly that strays into the sick room. Do not allow decaying matter of any sort to accumulate on or near your premises. All refuse which tends in any way to fermentation, bedding, straw, paper waste, and vegetable matter should be disposed of or covered with lime or kerosene oil. Screen all food. Keep all receptacles for garbage carefully covered and the cans cleaned or sprinkled with lime, oil or other cheap preparations. See that the sewerage system is in good order; that it does not leak, and is not exposed to flies. Pour kerosene into the drains. Cover food after a meal. Burn or bury all table refuse. Screen all food exposed for sale. Screen all windows and doors, especially the kitchen and dining room. Burn pyrethrum powder in the house to kill the flies. If there is a nuisance in the neighborhood report to the health department."

Vance Dille and Roy Kellison, aged thirteen and fourteen, were fishing on Mountain Lick Run the first of this week, when they heard a commotion, and looking up saw an immense bear in some spruce trees which leaned across the stream a few yards away. The bear was cracking its teeth and breaking off branches. The boys, very naturally were terrified, dropped their poles and what fish they had caught, followed the stream to its head so the waters would wash away their tracks, and then over the mountain to Withrow McClintic's. They ran the whole distance, fully four miles. It is supposed to be the bear that has been killing sheep on Swago Mountain. It is probably an old she with cubs which she had whipped into trees when she heard the boys coming and had stayed near to see that no harm came to them. It is no wonder that the boys were badly scared as this is one of the biggest bears that roams the woods.

## Be Glad.

Gather with a happy heart,  
The small joys on the way;  
Wait not for great good,  
Thou may'st have but today.  
Smile as the sunbeams smile,  
Sing with the wood-bird wild;  
Let not thy presence still  
The laughter of a child.

Joy in another's joy—  
Some heavier heart beguile,  
Let some small corner of the world  
Be brighter for thy smile.

So shalt thou add thy note  
To nature's gladsome chime,  
Her song of praise rings joyously,  
Keep thou thy heart in time.

Thou wilt not praise the worse,  
Because with harmless glee,  
Thou weavest in the net of life,  
Bright threads that fall to thee;  
Woodstock, Va., 1874.

## Trustees Sale.

Pursuant to authority vested in me undersigned, as trustee by deed of trust made by E. C. Woods, dated on the 30th day of November, 1908, and of record in the office of the Clerk of the County Court of Pocahontas county, West Virginia in trust deed book No. 5 at page 473, to secure H. M. Hiner in the payment of a certain bond of \$73.44, with interest and default having been made in the payment of said bond, I will proceed to sell by way of public auction, to the highest bidder at the sawmill of said E. C. Woods, on Donthards Creek, in Huntersville District of Pocahontas county, West Virginia, on

## THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 1909,

between the hours of 10 a. m. and 2 p. m., the following described property, to-wit:

One sawdust fan or blower, 58 feet of 12 inch 6 ply gandy belt, one wood split pulley, 32 inch diameter and 8 inch face one 12 inch steel split pulley with 10 inch diameter and 8 inch face, with boxing belonging to said pulleys.

Terms of Sale:—One third cash, and the residue upon a credit of six, twelve and eighteen months, the purchaser executing bonds bearing interest, with approved security, the title of the property to be retained as ultimate security.

WALKER YEAGER, Trustee.

## Notice of Application to Carry Revolver.

Notice is hereby given that I will apply to the Circuit Court of Pocahontas county, West Virginia on the first day of the Circuit Court, being the first day of June, 1909, for license to carry a revolver, as a special officer of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway.

This the 18th day of May, 1909.

PARIS D. YEAGER,  
50c Special Officer.

## Leading Livery.

Successors of W. Malcomb and Sons.

I have just added to my barn quite a large amount of shed room for both buggies and horses. Box Stalls for Stable Horses. Horses boarded by day or month. A nice line of new buggies and surreys just received. Prices always right. All calls promptly answered day or night. Come and see me when you want anything; even your horse fed.

Yours to Please,  
G. W. CLARK.  
ways horses for sale 30311113

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Simplest, Safest, Surest Vaccination for prevention of

## BLACKLEG IN CATTLE

25 Vaccinations in tube \$1.50

50 Vaccinations (one box) \$3.00

Blackleg Injector \$1.00

We pay postage.

## KRESO DIP

For all Live Stock.

Kills Lice, Ticks, Fleas, Mites,

Cures Mange, Scab, Ringworm,

Scratches, etc.

Effective, Inexpensive, Non-Irritating.

One gallon can, per gal \$1.25

Five " " " " " " 1.10

Freight paid to nearest railroad point.

S. B. WALLACE & CO.

Wholesale & Retail Druggists

## To The Ladies

Every woman has indulged in the hope that she may some day discover and possess the "Ideal" corset. It has been found, "A style for every type of figure," the Spirella corset—the acme of corset perfection; the most modish and up-to-date corset creation. Made to measure, "Spirella" is the name. Sold by agents only. Orders taken by Mrs. S. S. Steele, Marlinton, W. Va.

## Marlinton Novelty Works.

Prepared to do all kinds of repairing. Old trunks finished over; old

clothes and dresses replaced with new ones. Old furniture cleaned and polished like new. We also build portable play houses for the children. Any size; a child can take them down and set them up. We make a specialty of Grape and flower arbors; any size. In fact, anything in the novelty line for the house and lawn. Call and see us Shop in rear of Pocahontas Drug Store. M. E. RODGERS.

## FORSALE—Sawmill outfit complete,

including Geiser Mill, large single, three 46 inch head block s

20 foot carriage; 8 foot extension

mandril, log turner; sawdust fan;

three sawed edge; saw cut off;

line shafts; bevel gear for cut off;

one 60 inch Hoe saw, in good order;

one 60 inch Buckeye saw, Hoe

pattern (both saws take same teeth

No. 3); one 60 inch Diston saw,

not in good order. Geiser engine

10 by 14 cylinder, class M. This

outfit is in fine running order, cutting

ten to twelve thousand feet

daily. It will be sold because the

owner has gone into other business. A bargain for cash. Apply at this office.

## Monuments.

If you want good marble or granite grave stones for the graves of your relatives and friends, call upon the old Reliable Agent, G. H. McLaughlin, Marlinton, West Virginia, or Z. S. Smith, sub-agent, Marlinton.

J. H. MARSTELLAR,  
Roanoke, Va.

We don't sell concrete or slate bases.

## Capitation Tax.

All persons who have not yet paid their capitation taxes who have been assessed by me or my deputies and whose receipts are in our hands are hereby notified to pay the same at once.

S. B. MOORE, Assessor.

## Hackett's Gape Cure.

The only sure cure for gapes in chickens. It kills the Worm as well as the Germ. Price 25 cents.

S. B. WALLACE & CO.

Marlinton, W. Va.

Miss Ada Collins, of Hbsterman, was a visitor here Saturday.